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A UNIQUE DINNER.

The Bright Men of the 'Outlook' Do Honor to the Wizard of Tuskegee—We Have Aid of Him and Have Come to Worship Him.

On the evening of Monday, January 21, Mr. Booker T. Washington was the guest of the editorial and business staff of the Outlook Magazine at a dinner given in his honor in New York. The dinner was arranged by Mr. Lawrence Abbott, the president of the Outlook Company, in order that all the members of the staff might have an opportunity to meet Mr. Washington, and also to express the interest which all connected with the magazine have felt in "Up from Slavery," the story of Mr. Washington's life, which has been running as a serial in the Outlook since the 1st of November.

The dinner was given at the Aldine Club. The club occupies the ninth floor of a magnificent building on Fifth avenue, and the view from the windows is very beautiful, especially at night, when the thousands of the city's lights can be seen gleaming below. One of the guests said, quite appropriately, when he was looking out of these windows after dinner, "What a fine 'outlook'?"

Dr. Lyman Abbott presided at the dinner, having come on for the occasion from Boston, where he is delivering a course of lectures in the Lowell Institute course. There were about twenty in the party. Among others present were his son, Mr. Lawrence Abbott, Mr. Hamilton W. Mabie, Mr. R. D. Townsend, Mr. Charles B. Spahr, Mr. W. B. Howland, Mr. Elbert F. Baldwin, Dr. James Whiton, Mr. Karl V. S. Howland, and Mr. Max Bennett Thrasher.

There was no formal speaking after the dinner, but at Dr. Abbott's suggestion, and by his request, Mr. Washington spent an hour or more in answering such questions as those present asked him, and in conversation which these questions suggested. It was the very generally expressed opinion of those present that no article, or series of articles, which the Outlook has ever printed has attracted so much attention as "Up from Slavery." As an illustration of this there had been received, among other letters, four letters in one day from persons who were reading the series in Germany, the State of Washington, Mexico and Canada. Several of those present spoke of places where they knew of the articles being read by the scholars in schools. Mr. Washington said that he had just received a letter from a woman in Boston, enclosing a check for \$1,000 for the work at Tuskegee, as a result of her having read the articles.

The menu card for the dinner was unique and novel. On the first page, along with the name of the magazine and that of the Aldine Club, there was a large reproduction of the Outlook portrait of Mr. Washington, drawn by Mr. A. H. Clark for the magazine when Mr. Washington was in Boston last summer. On the next page were two striking extracts from Mr. Washington's story of his life, while the bill of



MR. J. H. LEWIS,
Merchant Tailor, Boston, Mass.

fare, on the third page, was an ingenious adaptation of thoughts which he had expressed in the course of the story. For instance, he tells of his mother cooking a chicken in their Kanawha Valley log cabin home, when he was a boy, and in another place, of his thinking, once when he saw the young women at his master's house eating ginger cakes, that he would be perfectly happy if he ever got to a point in life where he could eat all the ginger cakes he wanted to. The quotations from the story and the menu in full are as follows:

"One of my earliest recollections is that of my mother cooking a chicken."

Grape Fruit—Tuskegee Fashion.

Consomme Hampton.

Olives. Almonds. Celery.

Whitebait a la Tallapoosa River.

Filet of Beef Armstrong.

New South Sprouts. Dixie Potatoes.

Outlook Sherbet.

Chicken a la Kanawha Log Cabin.

Lettuce Salad.

Tuskegee Bricks of Ice Cream.
Auld Lang Syne Ginger Cakes.

Coffee.

"At that time those ginger cakes seemed to me to be absolutely the most tempting and desirable things that I had ever seen."

HIS COLLEGE EXAMINATION.

"I swept the recitation-room three times. Then I got a dusting cloth and I dusted it four times. I reported to the head teacher. She was a 'Yankee' woman who knew just where to look for dirt. When she was unable to find one bit of dirt on the floor, or a particle of dust on any of the furniture, she quietly remarked: 'I guess you will do to enter this institution.' I was one of the happiest souls on earth. The sweeping of that room was my college examination."

HELPING ALONG THE CAUSE.

"She was clad in rags; but they were clean. She said: 'Mr. Washin'ton, God knows I spent de bes' days of my life in slavery. God knows I's ignorant an' poor, but I knows you is tryin' to make better men an' better women for de colored race. I ain't got no money, but I wants you to take dese six eggs, what I's been savin' up, an' I wants you to put dese six eggs into de eddication of dese boys an' gals.'"

MAN OF AFFAIRS.

The Remarkable History of Mr. J. H. Lewis Boston's Leading Merchant Tailor—A Career Which Reads Like a Story From Alladin—A Small Beginning Which Now Runs up Into the Thousands.

J. H. Lewis, of Boston, Mass. is one of the most prominent and best known merchant tailors in all New England. For the last twenty years he has occupied a store in the very heart of the Athens of America on Washington St. near Winter street. Here property is dearer than in any other part of the great city. His rental for the store he has occupied was \$7,500 per year. Two years ago he moved into another place near the famous Boston theater and for this he pays nine thousand dollars (\$9,000) a year rent. Mr. Lewis employs more than a hundred girls, who are his pants makers, in addition to the high salaried men who by the dozen wait on the wealthy customers who are his patrons. His cutters are the best in Boston and he has paid one cutter as high as \$3,000 a year. He keeps two first class bookkeepers. His great army of employees are always busy. Whenever he can find the talent among men of his own race Mr. J. H. Lewis gladly employs them. It must readily be appreciated, however, that a very few colored men have been skillfully trained in this kind of work and Mr. Lewis's trade has been such that he has necessarily been obliged to purchase the services of men and women of the white race. But who is this wonderful colored man who occupies such a conspicuous place in the business interests of Boston? He is a mulatto who came to Massachusetts from North Carolina in the wake of the Union Army on its victorious return in 1865. He landed in Boston without education and without money. He obtained employment—the best he could from one man and then another, until finally he made up his mind to begin business for himself in a very small way. He first opened a clothes cleaning place and prospered; he then began the tailoring trade and prospered and became a rich man. When he opened his great store at 417 Washington street all Boston was amazed. He soon became known among the large dealers in woolen goods as a leading purchaser and his business reputation was still further enhanced. Today he is a prince among the merchant tailors of the country, a credit to himself, an honor to his race and to the business world.

Mr. Lewis has reared a splendid family. He has a wife and three children all grown—one girl and two boys. At the recent meeting of businessmen held in Boston under the leadership of Mr. Booker T. Washington his speech was a superior effort, full of broad common sense, good advice and wisdom. Mr. Lewis is still in the prime of life and we hope that there are many years of usefulness and happiness still before him. He deserves well of his race for which he has done so much. It is gratifying to know that no man is more appreciated by the colored people of the country than our eminent citizen, J. H. Lewis, of Boston.